

Golden State continues to make the bay area and America proud with their leadership, both on and off the court. Led by the extraordinary Coach Kerr—indestructible, he is—the Warriors honor our American values of equality, fairness, and respect for all with their words and their actions.

It gives me great pride to be a member of Dub Nation. Right, Congresswoman LEE? We are members of Dub Nation, and I extend my invitation to the Warriors. Joining Congresswoman LEE, who represents Oakland, we join in extending an invitation to the Warriors to once more come to the Capitol to celebrate this historic accomplishment.

On behalf of San Francisco, I extend well-deserved congratulations to the Golden State Warriors.

TAX REFORM IS WORKING FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. FERGUSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because, after 6 months, it is clear that tax reform is working for the American people.

Since President Trump signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act into law in December, we have seen Americans reap the benefits of a growing economy. The numbers don't lie.

Here are just a few of the things that we have seen in the last 6 months: 1 million jobs have been created; the unemployment rate is at its lowest point in 18 years; and consumer confidence is at its highest point in over 17 years.

The naysayers can continue to claim that tax reform isn't working for everyday Americans, but, given these numbers, I find that hard to believe. In reality, tax reform is helping America be the best place in the world to do business, and I look forward to continuing to work here in the House with my colleagues to give all Americans the opportunity to succeed in this thriving economy.

NATIONAL WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans donate blood each year.

Every 2 seconds, someone in America needs blood, and one person's blood donation can save as many as three lives in a crisis. A single car accident victim could require as many as 100 pints of blood. But it can't be manufactured; it can only come from volunteer donors.

Blood donors help patients of all ages, whether they are burn victims, cancer patients, or transplant recipients. My friend and my colleague STEVE SCALISE needed as many as 20 pints of blood on the day that he was shot nearly a year ago.

In fact, he is hosting a blood drive this week, and I would encourage all those who have the opportunity to donate blood this week. He is doing it in honor of World Blood Donor Day on June 14.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage all of those as well who are eligible to make an effort to donate blood to do so yourselves, because blood donors are lifesavers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

SYNTHETIC DRUG AWARENESS ACT OF 2018

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 449) to require the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service to submit to Congress a report on the effects on public health of the increased rate of use of synthetic drugs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 449

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Synthetic Drug Awareness Act of 2018".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON EFFECTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH OF SYNTHETIC DRUG USE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service shall submit to Congress a report on the health effects of new psychoactive substances (including synthetic drugs) used since January 2010 by persons who are at least 12 years of age but no more than 18 years of age.

(b) NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE DEFINED.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term "new psychoactive substance" means a controlled substance analogue (as defined in section 102(32) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802(32))).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 449, the Synthetic Drug Awareness Act of 2018. Synthetic drugs, such as synthetic marijuana and bath salts, are produced in the lab and can have chemical structures that are designed to mimic or even enhance those naturally occurring drugs.

Fentanyl, another synthetic drug, a substance that is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine, has numerous analogs.

These drugs are modified to circumvent the Drug Enforcement Administration's scheduling regime and are a serious public health risk. That is why H.R. 449 is so important, because it will require the United States Surgeon General to submit a comprehensive report to Congress on the public health effects of synthetic drug use among youth.

I would like to thank my colleague from New York, Representative HAKEEM JEFFRIES, for his hard work on this important initiative, along with Representatives CHRIS COLLINS, G.K. BUTTERFIELD, and TREY GOWDY.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the opioid crisis has left no one untouched by its destruction. Every age, sex, race, and socioeconomic class has felt the weight of the opioid epidemic and the disastrous effects it has on the lives of those in our Nation.

As this epidemic continues to grow, we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of children who are suffering opioid overdoses. A study published in Pediatrics earlier this year found that the number of children admitted to hospitals from opioid overdoses has nearly doubled since 2004. Another study found that kids between 12 and 17 accounted for 60 percent of the opioid overdoses in the pediatric population.

In 2016, nearly 4,000 children and young adults between the ages of 5 and 24 years old died from overdose due to opioids, and that is why I support H.R. 449. This bipartisan legislation would require the Surgeon General to report on the public health impacts of synthetic drug use and abuse by adolescents between the ages of 12 and 18.

Surgeon General reports have produced some of the most preeminent public health data available on some of the Nation's most pressing public health crises, from the adverse health consequences of tobacco use to reports on nutrition, HIV/AIDS, and violence. This is an important bill because it will allow the Surgeon General to address the impact of synthetic drug use on the youth population, and highlight the need for increased prevention efforts in the future.